



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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GOVERNOR

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For Immediate Release: September 15, 2009

09-079

DOH URGES HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND COMMUNITY VACCINATORS TO PRE-REGISTER AS H1N1 VACCINATION PROVIDERS DEADLINE THIS FRIDAY

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) has extended the deadline for healthcare providers to pre-register to be pandemic vaccination providers until September 18, 2009. DOH expects to begin receiving the state's first supplies of the 2009 H1N1 vaccine this fall and is planning for immediate distribution.

"To help prevent the spread of the virus, one of the objectives of the H1N1 vaccination campaign is to vaccinate as many people who want to be vaccinated as possible," stated Sarah Y. Park, M.D., state epidemiologist "We are counting on Hawai'i's healthcare community to come together to help accomplish this huge undertaking, and are thankful for their kokua."

Private primary care providers (pediatricians, internists, obstetricians/gynecologists, family physicians) and community vaccinators (retail pharmacies, community health centers, large medical groups, colleges/universities, etc.) should pre-register to become authorized vaccination providers at <http://h1n1vax.doh.hawaii.gov>. Hospitals and other healthcare facilities will be offering vaccinations to their staff and patients. Students in grades K–8 attending participating schools will also have the option of receiving H1N1 vaccination in school-located vaccination clinics.

DOH has been working with the healthcare community, sending medical advisories and meeting with community vaccinators to urge pre-registration. "Overall response has been steady but more

DOH Extends H1N1 Vaccination Provider Registration Deadline

registrants are needed, especially on the Neighbor Islands,” said Dr. Park. “The more vaccination providers we have in more locations, the easier and more convenient it will be for the public to have access.”

Earliest supplies of H1N1 vaccine will be delivered in limited quantities, with continuing shipments eventually supplying sufficient doses for all who wish to be vaccinated. Initial priority groups for 2009 H1N1 vaccination, as recommended by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will be:

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- All people from 6 months through 24 years of age
- Persons aged 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza

Healthcare providers with questions about the process for 2009 novel H1N1 vaccine distribution in Hawai'i may send inquiries to h1n1vax@doh.hawaii.gov or call 586-8300.

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